



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
LANSING

KIRK T. STEUDLE
DIRECTOR

July 5, 2006

**TO: Transit Agencies and Certified Public Accountants Performing
Public Transportation Audits**

SUBJECT: FY 2006 and 2005 Audit Information for June 30th Year Ends

The Audit Guide dated April 1991, is the compliance program when auditing State and Federal Section 5311 Operating Assistance funds. The Local Audit and Finance Division, Bureau of Local Government Services of the Michigan Department of Treasury (Treasury) in conjunction with the Passenger Transportation Division (PTD) of the Multi-Modal Transportation Services Bureau of the Michigan Department of Transportation has revised the Audit Guide for Transportation Authorities and Agencies in Michigan (Audit Guide). Treasury will issue the Audit Guide as an exposure draft. Instructions to get on Treasury's listserv are at: http://www.mi.gov/prINTERfriendly/0,1687,7-121-1751_2194_2196_34547-108898--,00.html. If you do not want to get on Treasury's listserv, but are still interested in reviewing and commenting on the exposure draft, please contact Trish D'Itri at (517) 335-2535 or at ditrit@michigan.gov for assistance.

This letter is updated yearly and supplements the Audit Guide with annual percentages and other necessary information.

I. Information Necessary to Calculate State Operating Assistance

A. Reimbursement Amount:

There is a fixed amount of state operating funds available and the distribution percentage changes based on the statewide eligible expenses. The reimbursements are initially calculated based on budgeted expenses and then recalculated based on reconciled expenses. Total eligible operating expenses will be recalculated a second time based on audited financial information.

Based on the budgeted and reconciled distributions, nonurbanized areas and urbanized areas under 100,000 population received:

FY 2006:	39.2546	percent of their eligible operating expenses
FY 2005:	39.9234	percent of their eligible operating expenses

Urbanized areas over 100,000 population received:

FY 2006:	33.1414	percent of their eligible operating expenses
FY 2005:	33.4938	percent of their eligible operating expenses

- B. Statutory Cap:
Nonurbanized areas and urbanized areas under 100,000 population can receive up to 60 percent of eligible operating expenses. Urbanized areas over 100,000 population can receive up to 50 percent of eligible operating expenses.
- C. Mandatory Floor:
An agency must receive, at a minimum, the amount received for eligible operating expenses in FY 1997, contingent upon the local share requirements set forth in Act 51, as amended.

II. Information Relating to Federal Funding and Reimbursement

- A. Each funding source (Section 5307, Section 5311 and Section 5316) needs to be shown separately in the audit.
- B. Reporting funds received under Job Access/Reverse Commute (JARC) – Section 5316

JARC expenses are reimbursed in one of two ways. First, PTD matches the federal JARC funds and a transit agency receives federal reimbursement for 50% of JARC expenses (up to a contract maximum). Second, PTD does not match the federal JARC funds and a transit agency receives federal reimbursement for 50% of JARC expenses incurred leaving the remaining 50% of JARC expenses (and any cost overruns) to be paid at the local level.

If PTD does match the federal JARC money, then the transit agency must:

- 1. Obtain a PTD approved cost allocation plan, and
- 2. Report JARC expenses on a separate OAR on the PTMS.

If PTD does not match the federal JARC money that a transit agency receives, then:

- 1. No PTD approved cost allocation plan is required, and
- 2. JARC expenses are reported on the regular OAR and any federal funds received are backed out as ineligible.

- C. For Section 5311 operating assistance, the nonurban eligible expense percentage is:

FY 2006:	15.0 percent
FY 2005:	12.4 percent

- D. The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) website is www.cfda.gov. CFDA numbers for federal programs are as follows:

20.505 for Section 5303
20.507 for Section 5307
20.500 for Section 5309
20.513 for Section 5310

20.509 for Section 5311
20.515 for Section 5304
20.516 for Section 5316

III. Information Relating to Association Dues

- A. All expenses associated with lobbying are not eligible and should be backed out under 58005 Ineligible Lobbying Expense.
- B. If a transportation organization incurs lobbying expenses, a percentage of dues paid to that organization is not eligible and should be backed out under 55009 Ineligible Percent of Association Dues. The percentage of association dues ineligible for reimbursement under the State Operating Assistance program and the Section 5311 Operating Assistance program are:

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
APTA	14.0 percent	11.0 percent
CTAA	Zero percent	Zero percent
MassTrans	12.65 percent	2.0 percent
MPTA	6.8 percent	6.9 percent

IV. Special Points

- A. For transit agencies that exceed \$500,000 or more in federal funds, a copy of its annual audit must be sent to both FTA and the Federal Audit Clearinghouse. Those addresses are:

Derek Davis,
Transportation Program Specialist
Federal Transit Administration
200 W. Adams Street
Suite 200
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Federal Audit Clearinghouse*
1201 East 10th Street
Jeffersonville, IN 47132

*No contact person necessary

- B. The expenditure information on Schedule 7 of the Audit Guide is used in MDOT's review of operating and capital contracts. Both federal and state funding should be included. This information on Schedule 7 should be consistent with the fixed assets and the revenues and expenses in the financial statements.

- C. PTD reviews and approves all cost allocation plan methodologies. To verify that the transit agency has an approved cost allocation plan, visit our website at: <http://www.michigan.gov/mdotptd>. In the “Resources” box, click on “Audit/Accounting Information.” Then click on “cost allocation listing.” This listing is updated periodically. It is possible that a transit agency’s cost allocation plan was approved since the last listing was posted. To determine if a plan was approved since the last update, or to get a copy of the approved methodology, contact your project manager.
- D. Clearly identify all grants in the financial statements and supplemental information. All grants should have the contract and authorization number, as well as a descriptive title. If a grant amount is included in total eligible expenses and then must be backed out as ineligible, the grant should be identified on items such as the revenue schedules, the Schedule of Expenses by Contract and General Operations, and the Ineligible Expense Schedule. Please note that any audit that fails to identify all grants on all of the applicable schedules will not be accepted.
- E. Please use the Local Public Transit Revenue and Expense Manual dated October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006 and October 1, 2004 through September 30, 2005. These manuals can be found at our website at: <http://www.michigan.gov/mdotptd>. To access this information, find the “Resources” box and click on “Audit/Accounting Information”.

V. References

Public transportation programs may have specific terms, conditions and restrictions related to each individual program. A listing of the Federal Transit Administration’s grant programs can be located at:

http://www.fta.dot.gov/grant_programs/specific_grant_programs/4187_ENG_HTML.htm

Other useful websites include:

Best Practices Procurement Manual: <http://www.fta.dot.gov/library/admin/BPPM>

Safety and Security: <http://transit-safety.volpe.dot.gov/default.asp>

Federal Register 49 CFR Part 655 – Drug and Alcohol
http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx_01/49cfr655_01.html

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Please contact Trish D'Itri, Auditing Specialist, at (517) 335-2535 or by email at ditrit@michigan.gov. with questions or if you need website information mailed to you.

Sincerely,

Sharon L. Edgar, Administrator
Passenger Transportation Division
Multi-Modal Transportation Services Bureau